KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

STAFF NOTE

Action/Discussion Item:

Kentucky Board of Education (KBE) budget priorities and preparation of the 2009-2010 biennial budget request (Additional data on a phased-in approach for full-day kindergarten under separate cover)

Applicable Statute(s) or Regulation(s):

KRS 156.070(5) KRS Chapter 48

Action Question:

Should the KBE approve budget priorities for additional funding for submission to the Governor's Office of Policy and Management as part of the 2009-2010 biennial budget request, and should priority status be assigned to each?

History/Background:

Existing Policy. Pursuant to KRS 48.050, the head of each executive budgetary unit shall submit its biennial budget request to the Finance and Administration Cabinet no later than November 15th of each odd numbered year. The KBE considers its budgetary priorities and makes determinations on priorities to direct staff to prepare the biennial budget request on behalf of the Department for submission to the Finance and Administration Cabinet and subsequent submission to the Governor.

Significant steps in the budget process include:

- 1. Development and approval of the budget calendar
- 2. Development and approval by the Governor's Office of Policy and Management (GOPM) of the program structure
- 3. Preparation of the FY 2009-2010 budget request
- 4. Submission of the FY 2009-2010 budget request to the Legislative Research Commission (LRC) and GOPM on or before the date designated

Based on the KBE's discussions at the July 11, 2007, August 9, 2007, and September 5, 2007, Board meetings, staff has prepared increased funding estimates for the Board's consideration in various program areas for the 2009-2010 biennium.

At the September 5, 2007 KBE meeting, the Board directed staff to pursue additional funding for the following areas in the listed order of priority found below:

- 1. Increase in SEEK base funding
- 2. Full-Day Kindergarten
- 3. Scholastic Audits and VPAT/SAT/NAT Initiatives

- 4. Gifted and Talented
- 5. Alternative Education

The Board will continue to consider additional funding requests and the priority status for these requests at the October meeting. Attached to this staff note is a budget spreadsheet for the Board's consideration of additional funding areas. Since the last Board meeting, added to the budget spreadsheet for the Board's consideration are additional funds requested from the Parent's Advisory Council and for the Base Realignment and Closure Committee (BRACC). Per the Board's request at the September Board meeting, staff will provide options for the phase-in of full-day kindergarten under separate cover prior to the October Board meeting.

Policy Issues:

What are the Kentucky Board of Education's budgetary priorities for the 2009-2010 biennial budget, and what priority status should be assigned to each?

Staff Recommendation and Rationale:

Staff recommends approval of the additional funding requests and the priority status for each, as identified by the KBE, to be submitted as part of the 2009-2010 biennial budget request. The Department's budget request must be submitted to the Governor's Office of Policy and Management in October, per that office's timeline.

Impact on Getting to Proficiency:

The biennial budget request is essential to the pursuit of appropriate funding levels for the Department of Education. Appropriate funding levels will impact the Department's ability to pursue strategic priorities in furtherance of each child reaching proficiency by 2014.

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Date:

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